

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SEOUL 03874 090933Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----049074 090934Z /13  
O 090856Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0959

S E C R E T SEOUL 3874

EXDIS

DEPT PASS LIBREVILLE, GENEVA, PARIS, PEKING AND ABIDJAN

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS SHUM GB CH KS  
SUBJ: ASYLUM REQUEST IN LIBREVILLE

REF: STATE 116952

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY WEST AFRICA DIVISION DIRECTOR KIM ADVISED EMBASSY OFFICER ABOUT 1600 HOURS LOCAL TIME MAY 9 THAT CHINESE DEFECTOR REMAINS IN HANDS OF AMBASSADOR KIM AND THAT ROKG HOPES PROBLEM WILL BE RESOLVED "IN FIVE OR SIX HOURS". (WE BELIEVE THIS TO MEAN THAT WHILE SHIM HAS LEFT EMBASSY PROPER, HE REMAINS AT A ROK CONTROLLED LOCATION.)

2. KIM NOTED THAT FOR SHIM TO BE RELEASED FROM EMBASSY "WOULD MEAN WORSE PROBLEM FOR US". HE ALSO SAID THAT ROK OBSERVER MISSION HAD DISCUSSED MATTER WITH UN SECRETARIAT, AND HAD BEEN ASSURED ROK WAS WITHIN LEGAL RIGHTS IN PROTECTING A REFUGEE IN ITS EMBASSY, BUT THAT UN WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO OFFER ANY ASSISTANCE. DIRECTOR GENERAL MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU ALSO CALLED IN FRENCH CHARGE IN SEOUL TODAY TO DISCUSS SITUATION. WE HAVE NO REPORT AS YET ON THAT MEETING.

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3. EMBASSY OFFICER TOLD KIM THAT RESOLUTION CONTEMPLATED FOR PROBLEM SHOULD NOT INVOLVE U.S. SIMILAR DEMARCHE MADE TO AMERICA BUREAU DIRECTOR PAK BY POLCOUNS. PAK ASSURED POLCOUNS THAT SUCH NOT INTENDED AND TO PASS BUCK IN THIS INSTANCE WOULD BE ACT OF COWARDICE.  
SNEIDER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DEMARCHE, POLITICAL ASYLUM  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978SEOUL03874  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780195-1159  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 1610b1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2747586  
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**Subject:** ASYLUM REQUEST IN LIBREVILLE  
**TAGS:** PINS, SHUM, KS, US, GB, CH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014